EXHIBIT 2





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Patent and Trademark Office

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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. FIRST NAMED APPLICANT SERIAL NUMBER FILING DATE 14014,0025 10/21/87 KINE

18M2/0915

NEEDLE & ROSENBERG, P.C.SUITE 1200 THE CANDLER BUILDING RECEIVED 127 PEACHTREE STREET, ATLANTA GEORGIA 30303

MARSCEXAMINER **ART UNIT** PAPER NUMBER

NEEDLE & ROSENBERG

09/18/96

Please find below a communication from the EXAMINER in charge of this application.

Commissioner of Patents

DOGKETED to be doc Name/Date

INTERFERENCE INITIAL MEMORANDI "Y

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS /

NTERFERENCES: An interference is fou

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| KING ET A | APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | PATENT NO., IF ANY | |
| , | L 107/110,791 | 10/21/87 | | ISSUE DATE, IF ANY |
| If application has been patented, hav | e maintenance fees been paid? | Yes No | | |
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| | 06/836,414 | 3/5/87 | | ISSUE DATE, IF ANY |
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| application has been patented, have m | | 12/31/86 | 14,968,603 | 11/6/90 |
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| screen 2970. If fees are due a | and they have not been paid | the interance fees have | been paid by using the | patent number with PALM uld involve an expired paten |
| (35 USC 135(a); 37 CFR 1.6 | 06). | , the interference cannot | be declared since it wo | uld involve an armind |
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| On a separate sheet, set forth a sthis count, please indicate to count as c | ne party, application or pate | ent number, and the claim | my party is exactly the | e same word for word |
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Revised PTO-850 ...erference Initial Memorandum appears on the reverse side of this sheet. This form has been revised to include the changes made to the interference rules as set forth in 1173 OG 49, particularly the changes to 37 C.F.R. § 1.609.

HIGHLIGHTS

1. Maintenance Fees

An interference is an extremely expensive and time consuming proceeding. When a patent is to be involved in an interference, such interference can only be set up with an unexpired patent. 35 U.S.C. § 135 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.602, 1.606, and 1.607. Since the examiner has the initial responsibility for reviewing the interfering applications and patents, it falls within the responsibility of the Examining Group to insure that the patent in question is in fact unexpired. This requires checking if the proper maintenance fees have been timely paid. Until this is done, the files should not be forwarded for declaration of an interference. The revised form includes instructions on how to verify whether Maintenance Fees for a U.S. Patent have been paid.

- Explanation of why claims correspond to a count Section 1.609(b)(2) of 37 C.F.R. requires an examiner's statement explaining why each claim designated as corresponding to a count is directed to the same patentable invention as the count. The purpose of the statement is to provide the Board and the parties involved in the interference with the benefit of the examiner's reasoning while deciding whether the interference should be
- declared and during consideration of preliminary motions. The reasoning set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.601(n) must be followed consistent with Office practice for justifying rejections. This information must be typewritten on separate sheets of paper.
- Explanation of why claims do not correspond to a count

Section 1.609(b)(3) of 37 C.F.R. requires an examiner's statement explaining why each claim designated as not corresponding to any count is not directed to the same patentable invention as any count. As above, this statement would provide the Board and the parties involved in the interference with the benefit of the examiner's reasoning during consideration of preliminary motions. The reasoning set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.601(n) must be followed consistent with Office practice for justifying allowances. This information must be typewritten on separate sheets of

Multiple Counts

In cases in which multiple counts are involved, 37 C.F.R. 1.609(b)(1) stipulates that the examiner must present reasons why each count is patentably distinct from the other counts. Once more, the reasoning set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.601(n) must be followed consistent with Office practice for justifying allowances. If the examiner cannot justify the patentability of one count over another count, then they must be considered as directed to the same invention and, thus, only one count would be required for the inter partes proceedings. This information must be typewritten on separate sheets of paper.

If you have any questions concerning the new form or the rule changes, feel free to contact a Program and Resource Administrator at 703-308-9797.

Interference summary for 07/110,791 versus P/N 4,968,603. Proposed phantom count: (combination of claim 44 of 07/110,791 and claim 1 of P/N 4,968,603)

A method of diagnosing or evaluating human cancer in a patient comprising: measuring the level of amplification in a tissue or tumor sample containing cells from said patient or increased expression of a MAC117 gene in a body sample from said patient, the presence of amplification or increased expression of said MAC117 gene indicating the presence of cancer or a cancer with a more malignant phenotype

OR

A method for screening patients to determine disease status, said method comprising: measuring the level of amplification or expression of the HER-2/neu gene in a sample from a patient suffering from breast or ovarian adenocarcinoma; and classifying those patients having an increased level of amplification or expression of the HER-2/neu gene relative to a reference level characteristic of normal cells as being more likely to suffer disease relapse or having a decreased chance of survival.

(Note that the Her-2/neu gene and the MAC117 gene are the same gene as summarized in P/N 4,968,603 in column 2, lines 39-43.)

All of the claims of 07/110,791 and P/N 4,968,603 correspond to the count in that they all are directed to evaluation, diagnosis, screening, or evaluation of cancer treatment as directly related procedures in that they are all based on the

analysis of the same gene regarding whether it is amplified, rearranged, or overexpressed in the tissue being tested. Such amplification, rearrangement, or overexpression being indicative of cancer diagnosis or when expressed regarding extent of gene alteration as indicative of a worsening condition of the patient whether being treated or not.

ATOM H. MARSCHEL PATENT EXAMINER GROUP 1800